



# COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER

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*COMMUNITY SERVICE NEWSLETTER is published six times a year by Community Service, Inc. Our purpose is to promote the small community as a basic social institution involving organic units of economic, social and spiritual development.*

## The Ethics of Economic Development

### A CHALLENGE FOR THE STATES

by Chris Weiss

The question of the ethics of economic development is an interesting one, if only because the economics of development is seldom tied to ethical questions. Decisions on overseas development by either the public or private sector are based for the most part on profit and loss statements and the opening of new markets, not on the potential effect on the standard of living of the disadvantaged people in that country. Yet there is increasing evidence that the role of the public sector in influencing the development process can be done ethically as well as profitably for business as well as employees. In other words, making money does not have to be done at the expense of ethical values. In fact, using those values may even make the best economic sense.

In my state of West Virginia, public policy makers have concentrated on industrial recruitment as a strategy to increase jobs in our communities. However, those of us who work in community-based economic development believe that economic development can be seen as a process. According to William Schweke, writing for the Corporation for Enterprise Development on "Investing in Poor Communities," the process is the way society "increases its material and social well-being over time. In a developing economy, employment increases, incomes rise and the

rate of economic growth increases." As we raise concerns over the ethics of economic development and the role of our government in making economic development decisions that affect our communities and the citizens, it is useful to listen to Mr. Schweke. He argues for "bottom-up" development and says that it must have a community focus. He calls upon state governments to support this kind of development and his arguments have particular relevance for West Virginia and other Appalachian states. He says:

An effective state-supported bottom-up economic development strategy is also a question of the proper means. Viable ventures and a self-sustaining development dynamic require three essential resources: human capacity, favorable market conditions and access to capital. Policy-makers should target each of these.

Looking at Schweke's definition of economic development as a process, it is clear that he is talking about a process that involves people--not just corporate leaders, but communities that know what their needs are and leadership to carry out plans.

In the absence of initiatives from state government in West Virginia to provide these resources, many community organizations have

filled the gap. Operating with limited funds and talented staff and volunteers, coalitions and alternative economic development strategies have been created to solve the problems. An affiliate of an international loan guarantee fund called Women's World Banking was started to assist with access to credit for women. The Coalition for the Homeless was formed to coordinate state-wide efforts to provide decent housing for rural people. Charleston East Community Development Corporation was formed to save and rehabilitate the housing stock on the east side in Charleston where numbers of black families lived. Organizations such as Women and Employment work to affect public policy decisions relating to women and economic conditions.

One of the more interesting attempts in the private sector and nonprofit world to relate to economic development out of their experience with these alternatives was the result of a year-long process called the Trends Study, sponsored by the West Virginia Human Resources Association, a group of human service organizations, and published in 1986. In it there was a call to link in a substantive way, the Governor's Office of Community and Industrial Development and the Department of Human Resources. The argument was made that by concentrating on industrial recruitment for economic revitalization of the economy, the state's policy makers were overlooking the human resources in the state, many of whom lived in the kind of poor communities that Schweke described and relied on income transfer payments to survive. By targeting this population, many of whom are women, GOCID could encourage self-employment initiatives, increase access to capital, support new markets for local businesses, and provide for infrastructure needs of the community such as health and human services as well as bridges and roads. All this would lead to what Schweke calls economic resilience, which he defines as the ability to respond to changes and a diversified economy in which creativity and innovativeness are encouraged and valued. This targeting of the human resources in the state is basically an ethical decision that makes good business sense.

In 1988, the Trends Study continues to be overlooked and the state continues to fall behind economically. With the highest unemployment rate in the country and in view of

other declining economic indicators in West Virginia (and parts of rural Ohio), another argument can be made for local development initiatives. In this state where we have the lowest labor force participation rate among adult men and women in the nation, there exists a substantial informal and unrecognized economy. It is primarily family-centered and survival-oriented. It exists in rural areas and to a lesser extent in the urban towns and cities. The people who operate in it (and many of them are women) do not pay taxes on their earnings which are small, do not utilize banking services, and do not get licenses for what they do. What they do is cut firewood and sell it, take care of children and old people, sell in flea markets, raise garden produce and tobacco, repair houses and landscape property, buy and sell livestock, produce craft items, swap for goods and services - in other words, create a local economy outside of what is normally considered a business economy.

There are two results from this activity, one of which is not particularly desirable. The first is that the state overlooks a potential source of tax revenue and ignores the jobs that are being created. In France and England, public officials created a program to use income transfer payments (such as unemployment and welfare payments) to support self-employment efforts. The programs demonstrated that by the third year, self-employment projects by unemployed workers began to bring in tax revenues and people left the ranks of the unemployed. By ignoring the small-scale economic activity that goes on in rural areas and by refusing to remove the barriers that would allow people on unemployment insurance and welfare the option of becoming self-employed, public officials lose the opportunity for growth.

The second and potentially healthy result of this informal economy is that entrepreneurs are being developed, markets are emerging, and skills in business development are being honed. The main disadvantage for those people who operate in the informal economy is the lack of assistance they have from the public and private sector to recognize their skills and to integrate them into the economic fabric of the larger community. Rural areas lose much potential by ignoring this "other" economy and not recognizing its potential to revitalize the state's poor economic image and reality.

It is local development initiatives, sometimes growing out of this informal economy, that will turn around the glum unemployment and economic statistics that West Virginians are tired of hearing about. In order to promote these initiatives, development in West Virginia and other states has to be people-centered, relying on an entrepreneurial economy and one that grows from the bottom up. In other words, we need to identify ethically correct and people-centered strategies that make good economic sense. We need to identify local leadership, back community development corporations, form business and community partnerships, increase access to capital, and above all, encourage the women and men that are still hanging on in this state that it is within their power to change things. We must abandon the quick-fix of industrial recruitment and dig in to build the West Virginia economy up from the grassroots. It is not only the West Virginia economy that is at stake here, but the emergence of economic resilience that Mr. Schweke talked about. That kind of system can only be built by people with an ethical commitment to their communities in partnership with public officials.

## Building Community

AS IF THE EARTH MATTERS

by Jane Morgan

Building Community As If The Earth Matters is the subject of our 1988 Community Service conference to be held October 21-23rd at the Outdoor Education Center in Yellow Springs.

Our lead article in this issue is by Chris Weiss, one of our resource persons. Chris, mother of four children, lives on a farm in Lincoln County, West Virginia. She is Executive Director of Women and Employment, Inc. and one of the founders of Women's World Banking. Women and Employment, Inc., a nonprofit community-based organization, is committed to improving the economic position and quality of life of West Virginia women.

Susan Meeker-Lowry, another resource person, is publisher of Catalyst, a quarterly newsletter for those interested in small-scale socially responsible investing, and author

of "Economics as if the Earth Really Matters." Susan will give the keynote talk Friday night. Saturday she will lead workshops on new ways in which people can use their involvement in the economic system as vehicles for expressing their consciously chosen values such as "living in harmony on the earth, fighting poverty and injustice, combatting feelings of hopelessness and building lives which combine diversity and synthesis, integration and balance."

Robert Swann, former resident of Yellow Springs, is the founder and president of the E. F. Schumacher Society in Great Barrington, Massachusetts. He, a designer and builder of houses, has also started land trusts. On Saturday and Sunday Bob will tell about his work and lead workshops on starting land trusts and on self-help organizations for regional economies.

Saturday afternoon between 4:30 and 5:30 there will be a special opportunity to hear Vicki Morgan of Yellow Springs present the "Shoebox to Showcase" method of preserving and protecting family snapshots and photographs in a family scrapbook album. This presentation addresses the dangers of the popular press 'n stick albums, the importance of keeping a child's and family photo album, and helps people to deal with the procrastination of many years of photos stored in shoeboxes. It will also provide many helpful hints and techniques to enable people to get started on a photo-safe family album. Vicki will have with her examples of the Webway photo-safe albums which will be available for sale. Attendees may bring their shoeboxes or albums to share.

On Saturday and Sunday Chris will lead workshops on Women's World Banking and related subjects. Saturday evening all the resource people will participate in a panel on "Building Community As If The Earth Matters."

If by any chance you wish to register to come and have misplaced your blue conference brochure, write or phone us and we will send another: P.O.Box 243, Yellow Springs, Oh 45387, 513-767-2161 or 767-1461.



# A New Business Ethic

An interview with Paul Hawken

The following article first appeared in the Spring 1988 issue of Money Matters, a Newsletter for concerned savers published by Working Assets Money Fund.

Traditionally, the business community tends to view environmental and other ethical concerns as obstacles in its pursuit of profits. One indication that that approach may be changing is the success of Paul Hawken as both a writer and a businessman.

Hawken's commitment to the environment is integral to the two businesses he has founded: Erehwon Trading Company, a Boston-based chain of health food stores; and Smith & Hawken, a mail-order gardening equipment company begun with the modest aim of importing farm tools for a local food cooperative and now an industry leader.

A central premise of both Growing a Business, and Hawken's earlier book, The Next Economy, is that the economy will soon be dominated by smaller businesses which are best equipped to respond to the needs of society. In Growing a Business, the 40-year-old entrepreneur summarizes his view of ethics in business with the statement: "Being a good human being is good business." He elaborated on that idea in a recent interview with Money Matters.

"Good business is having a sense of connectedness to the world around you that allows you to offer a product or service that is sufficiently different or better than what currently exists," said Hawken. "Most of the things that add value come from human beings. We're not talking about the 19th century when the way you made money was to dominate natural resources like oil, steel, coal, timber or land. In order to do that, you had to be disconnected from other people because you weren't really serving society. With all due respect, Rockefeller was thinking of only one person when he created Standard Oil."

Hawken sees a continued trend in business away from domination and toward cooperation

as the economy continues to shift from industry to information. As he writes in Growing a Business: "We don't need the same exponential increases in steel, coal, oil, and electrical production. We don't need another transcontinental highway system. We don't need 140 million more televisions ....Our economy will not grow bigger in scale, but we will see it become more specific, more diverse, more adapted to individual needs and desires."

"In an information economy," Hawken told Money Matters, "it's essentially the intangibles--things like service, quality, workmanship--which add value to most products and services. And intangibles are not something you can monopolize. The fact of the matter is, information becomes more valuable as more people have it, not fewer. Information has no value if nobody has it, or if only one person has it."

That idea is fundamental to Working Assets. The money fund grows in value as more people receive information about the ethical and environmental histories of the companies we choose to invest in--and not to invest in. If Hawken is correct, ethical investors will have more options in the next economy.



The following quote was sent to us by Robert Theobald, Wickenburg, AZ.

Our greatest need today is to shift from concentrating on the death of the industrial era to the growing evidence of the birth of the compassionate era. So long as we spend our time worrying about collapse we shall have little time or energy to look at the new shoots which are emerging all around us.

# Fellowship for Intentional Community

*The following article is made up of excerpts from and condensation of very long minutes of the FIC Board Meeting held April 16-17, 1988, at the Green Pastures Estate, Epping, New Hampshire. The original minutes were written by Allen Butcher and Dan Christenberry.*

Editing work on the 87/88 Communities Directory and publication of the Communities magazine have been suspended since the '87 summer quarter issue because of severe financial problems. Strong support for Fellowship involvement in this crisis has been expressed by Community Educational Service Council, Inc., Federation, Emissary Foundation and a number of communities and individuals. This board meeting included continuation of a year-long dialogue with the magazine's editor, Charles Betterton, and the publishers, Charles Betterton and Chris Collins. The objective has been resumption of editorial work on the new Directory and financing for Directory publication and distribution.

Communities magazine has always operated at a deficit. After subsidizing operating costs for the first 10 years, Twin Oaks withdrew in 1984. Then Stelle Foundation, Inc. (SFI) took over. By mid-87 Communities magazine was still losing \$2-3,000 annually. SFI members became overextended not only in labor hours but by personally assuming the magazine's debts.

The Directory issue has been a big seller which reduced the deficit from the magazine. But editing a new Directory consumes a lot of labor, office and correspondence expenses, which SFI has no prospects of procuring. So, Communities' editorial staff at SFI asked the Fellowship for assistance in editing and financing up to 10,000 copies of an updated, high-quality Communities Directory. Estimated costs: \$20,000.

Laird Schaub presented a proposal for assistance that he had developed in collaboration with Charles Betterton. As envisioned, the revised directory would include expanded descriptions of interested communities, quick reference charts, related articles, a catalog of community products and businesses,

and the regular, shorter listings seen in previous Directories. It would change from the magazine format to a more expensive flat-spined, paperback book, which could then be distributed through the higher-volume bookstore market. Considering the increased unit cost of the book format, the new Directory may be revised every 3-5 years rather than annually.

Though Charles Betterton is the editor of Communities magazine, the publisher is Community Publications Cooperative (CPC), a division of Unschool Educational Services Corporation. The publisher has ultimate responsibility for the magazine. CPC now consists of Chris Collins, Charles Betterton and Paul Freundlich, who is director of Co-op America.

It was decided that the FIC, with CESCI, Federation and Emissary support, will negotiate with CPC/Unschool to co-publish the new Communities Directory. If successful, the Fellowship will raise the funds and labor necessary to publish and distribute a new Communities Directory by the summer of 1989.

At the invitation of Art Rosenblum's Aquarian Research Foundation, Soviet Academy of Sciences Research Fellow Peter Gladkov was scheduled to make a two-month tour of successful U. S. intentional communities during this summer. He plans to produce a scholarly report to the Academy and a popular book for Russian and English-speaking readers. Peter Gladkov is a close associate of Professor Georgi Arbatov, Soviet Premier Gorbachev's primary advisor on U. S. affairs. So, the results of his tour will receive significant attention from political leaders in the Soviet Union, as well as in the U. S.

During a personal trip to Moscow last year, Art wrangled a meeting with Professor Arbatov and arranged a visit to U. S. communities last summer for Soviet author and poet Igor Mikhailusenko.

Art feels that intentional community participation in this tour can help advance

peace education and USSR-US friendship. Beyond these issues a video documentary of the tour also could focus positive media attention on the evolution of intentional communities, and inform people about the wide variety of communitarian lifestyles now available in North America.

The Soviets are paying for Peter's Aeroflot tickets to this country. But tax-exempt Aquarian Foundation has accepted responsibility for raising the money to cover all U. S. expenses of the tour, including travel expenses and the cost of producing and editing 25 hours of video tape. The projected cost is \$15-20,000. A \$10,000 loan is available, but additional funding is needed. Art is interested in discussing tax-exempt donations, loans or investments that would share in the financial success of the video documentary of the tour. The Fellowship will publicize the need for financial support, and will encourage intentional communities to host tour group visits and provide financial support where convenient.

The School of Living has extended a \$10,000 line of credit to CESCI. This asset will be added to CESCI's \$22,000 loan fund, and will be used to make additional loans to intentional community businesses.

Throughout the Fellowship's history, meetings have been held in the Northeast or Midwest. In the 1986 incorporation meeting, a commitment was made to seek the participation of more communities from the West. Alpha Farm answered the call which went out for a community in that region willing to host the meeting. Alpha Farm is on 280 acres in a rain forest of Oregon's Coast Range of mountains. Founded in the early 70's, Alpha is a small, income-sharing, business-oriented community with a history in community networking and social activism.

The Fellowship's Fall 88 meeting will be held at Alpha Farm, Deadwood, Oregon on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 23, 24 and 25. Participants are requested to notify Alpha Farm in advance and to come early, prepared to start meeting on Friday morning.

Don Pitzer, director of the Center for Communal Studies, is editing a new book,

America's Communal Utopias: The Developmental Process, which has been scheduled for publication in 1989. Don has offered space for a chapter on the FIC in this popular history of communal societies. The FIC will seek a communitarian writer to write a history of the Fellowship for this publication.

Stelle will continue as continental headquarters for the Fellowship with administrative responsibilities assumed by Jerry Emory, who will have backup supports from Carroll English.

Dan Christenberry proposed that the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) be contacted about financing for an FIC staff and other operating costs, according to the budget proposal of \$110,000 which includes field co-ordinators for eastern and western regions, a headquarters office manager and an editor for Communities magazine. Dan will seek an interview with NEH in Washington, DC, about financial support for the Fellowship. An additional \$20,000 will be added to the proposed budget to provide financing for an updated Communities Directory.

All decisions made during this Fellowship meeting were by unanimous agreement, reflecting the deeply-held sense of common purpose that was shared among the participants.



## Book Review

COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND EMPLOYEE OWNERSHIP: A RESOURCE GUIDE, researched and edited by the staff of the National Center for Employee Ownership, 426 17th Street, Suite 650, Oakland, CA 94612, 1988, 89 pp. Can be purchased from the Center at a cost of \$15 (members) and \$25 (non-members).

Matthew Kumin

Employee ownership, while not exactly the sexiest topic to hit the press, is certainly

one of the "sleepers" of the last two decades. Despite the growth of ESOP's and cooperatives, mainstream community development people have not caught on to its potential. Specifically, few in a position to change the economic conditions of their community members have thought in terms of developing employee-owned businesses as a way to create healthful, decent jobs. Recognizing that this unfamiliarity with the strategy is due to a lack of information about working models, the National Center for Employee Ownership embarked on a two-pronged project. The first prong involved our efforts to create a model for cooperative development. The second prong was the development of a resource guide for community activists trying to provide jobs for unemployed, disadvantaged, alienated and marginalized workers.

The most interesting section of the book describes the efforts of 31 local projects in all parts of the country, to create employment through cooperative ventures. From the Rust Belt to the Breadbasket, in the North, South and West, workers are attempting to permanently regain control of their jobs and lives through developing employee owned businesses. In some instances, as is the case of one American Indian reservation, the group is trying to develop a marketing organization to help distribute wild rice gathered on the land. In other cases, workers have set up manufacturing, construction, temporary labor, service and processing business. The case studies relate the history, the current status, the types of technical and financial assistance the groups received as well as information about how to contact the key players.

Another key chapter in the book discusses the practical lessons learned from these path-breaking experiments in workplace democracy and community control. If nothing else, we, and those working on these projects, learned that persistence and cooperation from as many quarters as possible are common denominators in the successful projects. For instance, local universities played an important role in providing technical assistance in almost all of the projects we included in the book. Without clear training about worker ownership and

a commitment to democratic workplaces, these efforts will simply not work.

In the course of researching the book, we spoke with a number of directors of "failed" projects. Their first comment was that the workers did not think of themselves as owners. Clearly, deeply ingrained cultural, economic and social patterns must be broken down at the same time that these alternative businesses are being built up.

The final important part of this resource guide is the identification of the key national technical assistance and funding agencies which have promoted and supported these efforts. While the importance of national support can never be taken for granted, neither can the critical role local technical assistance and funding plays in the start-up of employee-owned businesses. In fact, no project succeeds without first developing the base of local support. The national, specialized assistance can be called in for help but only to augment the local support, not replace it.

Our experience working in local San Francisco Bay Area communities is also woven into the chapters, offering a model for developing a local strategy. As we and others have found, the task is a large one for it envisions radically different ways of doing community economic development, and doing business. The traditional worship of capital in the form of real estate development and other investments in the community largely neglected the "little" people in communities. The benefits they received from such large, allegedly community-oriented projects were difficult to quantify. Hopefully, the recognition and valuing of human labor that this approach fosters will help right the undue influence that capital has in our communities.



# Report on Padanaram Convention

The meeting in Padanaram Village, held in October of '87, brought ten or so diverse communal groups together and provided valuable insights into what is happening within each group and the communal effort in general. Open discussions, slide shows, and the sharing of literature enabled those present to share their ideas. Even in diversity we found common concerns of economics, negative media coverage, survival into the future, education, and examination of our philosophical and spiritual roots. One important aspect of the meeting was that there was discussion on a number of topics. Though the discourse became heated at times, it brought out many facets of communal life.

Communalists actually constitute a mutant society. They can fit into the structure and format of the "status quo," but they are convinced that "in community" a better world is available. Regardless of background, religion, or politics, they share endless ideas and a belief that they need not follow society's established practices. They have a vision of a network of worldwide communities. It is timely that communities fellowship together on a regular basis to keep this flow of ideas and demonstration of "communities in action." Diversity in fellowship does not mean they cannot communicate.

Some of those attending were:

Jim Wyker of New Hope, in Kentucky, with its innovative vision of a community for young and old.

Walter and Dale Pederson of Four Chimneys Farm Winery in New York, where they are a part of a group of twenty who grow grapes organically.

Bruce Sabel of Sunflower Farm in Ohio, established in 1975 as an "alternative of independence and interdependence and a response to dependence on costly, impersonal, large-scale institutions."

Art Rosenblum of the Aquarian Research Foundation in Pennsylvania, which is

engaged in a number of projects, one of which is promoting peace between Russia and America.

Paul and Betty Alexander of the Balanced Life Center in Michigan which provides programs in yoga, meditation, birth education and natural healing methods.

Rick Lathrop of Oakwood Farm in Indiana, which was established as an Emissary community in 1973.

Lee McWilliams and members of his community from New Mexico which is active in exploring spiritual dimensions and has its own business and school.

Arnie Gustin, Millie DusSault, and David Alexander of Heartlite Community, a spiritual community for wholistic education, classes in yoga, vegetarianism, and meditation.

Lee McKinney, the elder of the spiritually based King of Kings community in Georgia, which has its own business and school.

Swami Bhaktipada, leader of the New Vrindaban community in West Virginia, which is based on the vision of the spiritual master, Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

Bob Watze, who is forming the Farm Home Center in Wisconsin, whose members will be engaged in cottage industries, organic gardening, and a holistic health center.

Dr. Donald Pitzer of the National Communal Societies Association and the Communal Studies Center at the University of Southern Indiana in Evansville, Indiana, which is actively involved in the presentation of historical communities as well as studying current ones.

The meeting began with introductions by those present. Several major questions were addressed in the first two days.

1. Should there be an effort to get the media to look at communal living? Why do the media portray such a negative view of communalism or even refuse to do articles on communities?

2. Could there be a sharing of goods from community to community?
3. When times get rough, will people seek community and how will communities react?
4. How can we avoid errors of the past, errors of human nature in community?
5. Why isn't there more fellowship among communities?
6. What about the growing of food and ecological concerns?

Consensus was reached on the following points:

1. The need of sharing goods from community to community.
2. The need of becoming economically self-sufficient, growing good wholesome food.
3. The need of newspapers and a common printing press among communities for gaining new members and improving public relations.
4. The need of communities to come together to discuss major problems that affect all communal groups, regardless of present differences.
5. The need to show action and visible demonstration that communities do work.
6. The need of unity among the leadership of communities.
7. The need of a one-world society.

The third day took a turn into philosophical and religious questions, finding the true meaning of religion, its purpose. Is there a higher self?

All in all, the meeting will be remembered by all those attending as a time of deeper insight and self-examination into our convictions that communal life is not an evasive, impossible dream.

We, in Padanaram Village, look forward to hearing from you and hope that you are able to attend our meeting this year, October 12-16th, 1988.



## Repair of Autos to Zippers

*The following article is gleaned from clippings sent to us by David Brown of Emmaus, PA.*

"...Make something old do and use it over and over again." This Pennsylvania Dutch saying is quoted more than once in the Lehigh Valley Repair Directory just published by New Generation Press in Emmaus, PA. But those words of wisdom are seldom heeded in today's throw-away society. Consumers are actually encouraged to throw things out when they break by the inconvenience and prohibitive cost of getting them fixed.

But Ron Shegda of New Generation Press thinks this attitude must be changed if the world is to survive. And an immediate practical step toward changing this philosophy would be to obtain and use the repair directory, which lists more than 1,200 repair shops in the Lehigh Valley, many of them small, family-based operations. If we repair our toaster ovens instead of throwing them out, or get a zipper fixed instead of discarding the garment, we save natural resources and conserve landfill space just as we do when we take our bottles and newspapers to be recycled.

For Ron Shegda the Lehigh Valley Repair Directory is more than a guide for getting zippers fixed or sleigh bells patched up. The directory gives greater visibility to a hidden aspect of the Lehigh Valley economy --the repair industry. And it marks the beginning of Shegda's community and economic development strategy based on the concept of regeneration.

Shegda hopes his planting of an acorn, the directory, will grow into a large oak tree --a regenerative economy that attracts young people to fixing and preserving things to keep these skills and traditions alive. He is aware that his plan is in opposition to a worldly society of environmental waste and obsolescence. It's not surprising, then, that the directory has a list of recycling programs in the Lehigh Valley. Shegda speaks of the close link between repairs and recycling.

Future projects on Shegda's regeneration drawing board include encouraging shopkeepers

and repair specialists to open manufacturing plants and an apprenticeship program to teach repairing skills to young people.

The directory has been launched as a public service by the New Generation Press of Emmaus, a small, fledgling company headed by Shegda, the president, and David Brown, business manager, and operated from Shegda's home. The directory project cost New Generation Press \$50,000.

Shegda and Brown both are graduates of the Wharton School of Business of the University of Pennsylvania. Shegda, originally from Philadelphia, came to Emmaus after completing graduate studies in public policy at Tufts University in Massachusetts.

The handy 60-page book is intended as a "practical resource" which contains some listings not found in any other directory and shows repair services for more than 100 items. It is not intended to replace any others but rather to be a supplemental directory.

The book, two years in the making, is designed as a regional guide to more than 1,200 shops that do all sorts of repair work for businesses and households in Lehigh and Northampton counties and eastern Berks County. The directory is freely available at more than 50 public locations, such as markets and libraries.

The initial printing was 10,000 copies financed mostly by charges for the ads and listings of repair businesses. The book will be expanded and updated annually if there is wide public acceptance.

Shegda said that because not enough young people are learning repair skills, he also proposes creating a Lehigh Valley Apprenticeship Program, matching vocationally oriented young people with establishing crafts people.

For more information write to the company at 48 N. 3rd Street, Emmaus, PA 18049 or phone 215-967-6656.



## Readers Write

### ABOUT CAMPHILL COMMUNITY

I will be living in quite a special Camphill Community, comprised of four families, several single adults, and 15-20 young adults with special social and/or learning needs. This seems very clear as the essential year of service and learning toward the goal of starting a Farm-Neighborhood Community which I, way back, told you about. And I love it here! The people are wonderful, their vision growing and their awareness encompassing so many things "as if the earth mattered."

Your articles continue to be superb and relevant; may God bless the seeds you sow in every way.

*Sr. Virginia Mary Osborn, Hudson, NY*

### ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER

Congratulations on the superb July/August issue! I was deeply moved by the lead article, as well as, the piece about reforestation.

*Morris Milgram, Newtown, PA*

Thanks for all you are doing to promote a high quality of life. Best wishes. The two people whose addresses I send could use your community newsletter. I'll look forward to further issues.

*Silas Townsend, Erie, PA*



## Announcements

### PADANARAM CONVENTION

The Padanaram Settlement in Williams, Indiana, will hold its convention October 12th-16th, with open discussions on subjects dealing with the network of cooperative communities and the building of a better world. For information write: Rachel Summerton, R.R. 1, Box 478, Williams, IN 47470.

## FOLK-SCHOOL CONFERENCE

The Folk-School Association of America's 1988 Conference will be at Berea, Kentucky, October 12-16. The theme is education. Registration fee is \$20. Reservations for bed & breakfast (12.50/night in private homes) must be received by September 15th. For information write: John Ramsay, Box 287, Berea, KY 40404.

## NAHC CONFERENCE

The National Association of Housing Cooperatives will hold its 28th Annual Conference at Atlanta, Georgia, September 28-October 2. There will be workshops on all aspects of cooperative development and operations. For information write: NAHC, 1614 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314.

## CO-OP AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CATALOG

Co-op America, a national, non-profit organization, is offering its catalog to nonmembers for \$1. Its products are designed to conserve natural resources and save consumers money. Its 48 pages include 123 illustrations and photos.

For more information write: Co-op America, 2100 M St NW, Suite 310, Washington DC 20063.



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## **Membership**

Membership is a means of supporting and sharing the work of Community Service. The basic \$20 annual membership contribution includes a subscription to our bi-monthly NEWSLETTER and 10% off Community Service-published literature. Larger contributions are always needed, however, and smaller ones will be gladly accepted. Community Service is a non-profit corporation which depends on contributions and the sale of literature to fund its work so that it can offer its services to those who need them. All contributions are appreciated, needed and tax deductible. Due to added postage costs, overseas membership is \$25 in U.S. currency.

### **Have Your Friends Seen the Newsletter?**

Please send the names and addresses of your friends who might enjoy receiving a sample NEWSLETTER and booklist. (If you wish specific issues sent, please send \$1.00 per copy.)

### **Editor's Note**

We welcome letters to the editor (under 300 words) and articles (700-2000 words) about any notable communities or people who are improving the quality of life in their communities. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish the article returned. The only compensation we can offer is the satisfaction of seeing your words in print and knowing you have helped spread encouraging and/or educational information.

### **Editor's Note #2**

We occasionally exchange our mailing list with a group with similar purposes such as the Arthur Morgan School at Celo or Communities Magazine. If you do not wish us to give your name to anyone, please let us know.

### **Address Changes**

If there is an error on your mailing label, please send the old label and any corrections to us promptly. It increases our cost greatly if the Post Office notifies us of moves, not to mention that we like hearing from our members and friends!

### **Consultation**

Community Service makes no set charge for formal or informal consultation. Customarily, we ask for a contribution at a rate equal to the client's hourly earnings.



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*You can tell when your Community Service membership expires by looking at the month and year in the upper left corner of your mailing label. Please renew your membership now if it has expired or will expire before 10/88. The minimum membership contribution is \$20 per year. We do not send individual reminders to renew.*

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